

POLLOK FREE STATE LAND REDEMPTION FUND



"Fighting, not for glory nor riches nor honours
but for freedom alone."

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The Free State is still alive and kicking in spite of Strathclyde Regional Council's environmentally suicidal M-way policy. And the reason we are continuing is that this isn't just about local issues, it's about wider threats to our earth's survival posed by ozone depletion, acid rain and global warming.

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Conscience dictates that we continue campaigning to protect our environment from destructive and anti-democratic developments within our city. At this moment Glasgow is under attack from motorway schemes which will blight the city at every level. Our greenbelt, including Pollok Estate, has come under attack from ill conceived development plans which deny the value of nature and green space. You only have to open your eyes and witness the graphic scenes of thousands of destroyed trees. We believe that these attacks on the environment must be resisted and reversed.

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European road policies are being opposed all over the continent, with some success. We in Pollok Free State are not alone. Our cry is that of a concerned people, unconvinced that the M77 could ever deliver what politicians have promised. Despite our pleas and desperate protest, this tarmac symbol of council corruption is becoming a reality.

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But far from being defeated we're becoming more determined than ever to put our shoulder to the task of creating a positive future, realising that we alone can help ourselves. Our hope is to move on to build a study centre and develop an information network, connecting concerned people from around the country. We would provide training with a focus on traditional crafts, empowering people to generate their own income without destroying the environment.

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Our main aim is to buy suitable land. To this end we propose to create a land fund. The objective behind this is to begin to replace the common land that has been lost to "development". To provide a place where the landless people of the cities can visit for recreation and enjoyment, to restore native forests and help rebuild a sustainable community. It would also be a centre for studying wildlife, living skills, the crafts, culture, alternative energy programmes and other ways of living in balance with the local environment.

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Are you interested in helping to get this fund off the ground, by contributing a weekly sum of money or helping to raise funds ? Our efforts will soon bear fruit. For further information, please fill in the slip below & return to : Land Fund,

2/2, 67, Burghead Drive,

Linthouse,

Govan,

G51 4QH

or see Jimi Sweeny or Wullie Moore at Pollok Free State, Barrhead Rd.

Please send me further information on the Land Fund,

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....



SAVE POLLOK ESTATE

*The STARR
alliance:*

Friends of the Earth
(Scotland)

Scottish Wildlife Trust

Earth First!

Glasgow for People

Socialist Environment
and Resources
Association

Glasgow Cycling
Campaign

Railway Development
Society (Scotland)

Glasgow Buildings
Guardians Committee

Architects and
Engineers for Social
Responsibility

STOP THE AYR ROAD ROUTE

Pledge

to Save the Greenbelt

Plans to bulldoze a motorway extension through Pollok Estate are imminent. Pollok Estate is the jewel in the crown of all Glasgow's greenbelt. One thousand and eighteen acres of woodlands, fields and riverside habitat, it is home to much wildlife: roe deer, foxes and birds of prey. It was to be protected by the first conservation agreement ever entered into by the National Trust for Scotland. Trust founder and owner of the estate, Sir John Stirling Maxwell, wished to secure this amenity of open space and woodland for EVER ... "for the benefit of the citizens of Glasgow". That promise has been broken.

Destruction Without Gain

Despite its outstanding conservation value, a large swathe of Pollok Estate will be destroyed by the construction of the Ayr Road Route (M77). At a cost of £79 million, the M77 is being promoted by Strathclyde Regional Council and the Scottish Office, and it will:

- *Blast through the western woodlands of Pollok Estate.*
- *Funnel cross-Scotland traffic, including heavy lorries, through a peaceful green area and through the city centre, bringing noise, danger and pollution to many communities, including Corkerhill and Mossbank.*
- *Destroy recreation grounds in Pollok, Nitshill and Darnley.*
- *Feed up to 53,000 vehicles a day onto the M8 and overloaded Kingston Bridge. Exhaust fumes cause increased health problems such as asthma and add to global warming and acid rain.*

Financed by your taxes, it will primarily serve to swell the bank balances of the motorway contractors. Yet this money is desperately needed for better public transport, homes for the homeless and envi-

ronmentally friendly development that create far more jobs than road-building.

Pledge Your Support

Join the thousands already opposing this road. Help save Pollok Estate from the bulldozer by signing the pledge below.

Reckless roadbuilding is being increasingly exposed as an environmental and social disaster. In England, campaigns by community and environmental groups have succeeded in curtailing one third of the government's £23 billion road building programme. In Oxleas Wood in South London, 3,000 people stopped the destruction of ancient woodlands by pledging to peacefully oppose work there.

This pledge is not a binding document. It simply reflects your personal commitment to campaign and save Pollok Estate.

Visit the woodlands on Barrhead Road (opposite National Savings Bank) and see what advanced works, abandoned due to lack of funds, have done.

By bus: 21, 23 and 48.

STARR

STARR is an alliance of leading conservation and community groups. It has no party political affiliations.

Please cut out the slip below, and return to: STARR, 53 Cochrane Street, Glasgow G1 1HL
Telephone 041 552 8776 or 041 636 1924

I wish to express my opposition to the proposed Ayr Road route into Glasgow and will peacefully protest against it.

Name: Donation:

Address:

Postcode Tel:

Tom Shields



DIARY

enough, since the conditions in Swedish jails are far better than conditions outside on the other side of the Baltic. Also, they can make more in prison wages in Sweden than in most jobs at home.

Lost cause

I POPPED down to Pollok Free State, site of the Glasgow M77 tree wars, in the role of impartial observer. Then I discovered that they are building the motorway through my childhood.

When I was a boy in the mid-1950s, the countryside started at my front door. Across the Brock Burn were some football pitches and then open ground stretching away up to a magical place we called the Gala Park.

Summer days were spent in the Gala Park. From morning till night. There was no need to go home for lunch. There was

always a campfire with hot bubbling soup, courtesy of Gallo way's the butchers who left their packets of Knorr on a window ledge which was vulnerable to young shoplifting fingers. Galbraith's the grocers were also very generous, albeit unwittingly.

It was a busy life paddling in the burn, watching the soldiers from the nearby Army camp on manoeuvres with their girlfriends, and being chased by local farmers and greenkeepers at the Pollok and Cowglen golf clubs.

It was the beginning of the end in 1957 when they tore up half of the football pitches to build Bellarmine school. We did our best at sabotage by putting sand in the fuel tanks of the bulldozer.

But they built the school and took their revenge by incarcerating us in it. The suburban blight spread rapidly. They built

another school called Craigbank for the Protestants. It is now lying empty as, they say, Bellarmine will also soon be.

The Army camp was replaced by the National Savings Bank which at least gave jobs for those who survived Bellarmine and Craigbank. Commerce arrived in the shape of the Pollok Centre, a dreary monument to the consumer society which succeeds only in pointing up the poverty of the area.

I looked in to see the people who populate the campsite they call Pollok Free State and who still believe they can stop the motorway.

The Pollok Free State campsite is a wee boy's dream. In the very woods where the polis and the golf course greenkeepers used to chase us for playing cowboys and indians, there are now totem poles, tepees, tree houses — all sorts of esoteric artefacts erected by adults and fully sanctioned by police and planning department alike.

They have a field kitchen which specialises in great pots of soup made from mounds of fresh veg. None of your shoplifted Knorr packets.

When I visited, the conversation over cups of tea round the huge campfire was to a background of fiddle music.

It's the sort of place where you can sit up all night round the fire, you get to flout authority, your mum doesn't come looking for you to thrust you into the bath. Even better than the Gala Park days.

And you get to meet interesting people. An American Indian chief, faith healers from Brighton, New Age protesters from all over the world. And Alsatian dogs. It wouldn't be Pollok without the Alsatian dogs.

I walked from Pollok Free State over to what is left of the Gala Park. It is now a blasted heath, a bleak wasteland which can be improved only by putting a motorway through it.

What I am saying is that the battle to save my particular dear green place was lost long ago. They are fighting a losing battle, too, in Pollok Free State.

7/500/3/45

M77 protester for court after clashes at site

By STEPHEN FRASER

AN M77 protester will appear in Glasgow Sheriff Court today after clashes between demonstrators and security personnel guarding tree fellers clearing a site at Malletsheugh.

Mr Colin MacLeod, 28, was reported to the procurator-fiscal in connection with an alleged assault on a security guard at the site in fields adjacent to Pilmuir Road.

A 45-year-old man was arrested at the same time for allegedly causing a disturbance, and is also expected to appear in court today.

Two other protesters are currently on remand in Glasgow's Barlinnie prison, after refusing to accept bail conditions forbidding them from obstructing or interfering with employees of Wimpey Construction, the company contracted to build the M77 link.

Mr Paul Murphy, from Langside, and Mr Jake Hunter, who lives at a camp established in Pollok Estate, are alleged to have committed a breach of the peace last Thursday at another section of the proposed road.

The pair, together with a 20-year-old woman, Ms Frances Claxton, who accepted the bail conditions, will go on trial on February 27.

In an earlier incident at the Malletsheugh site yesterday, a protester claimed he was dragged through a barbed wire fence by a number of security guards from the company

engaged by Wimpey Construction, Securiguard.

Mr Tam Roy, 35, alleged he sustained a seven inch gash on his right leg and cuts to his arms when he was removed from the site.

He said: "I was grabbed in a headlock and dragged through barbed wire by about seven of them."

He also claimed that watching police refused to listen to his complaint of assault, but instead had warned him.

Mr Roy also alleged that the security guards behaved in an aggressive manner. He claimed they wore no identification.

A spokesman from the security firm, who refused to give his name, confirmed his men had removed Mr Roy from a site where trees were being felled, but insisted they had lifted Mr Roy carefully over any fences and had not injured him.

The spokesman said: "About six protesters arrived at the site at about 8.30am, and one jumped the fence and started trying to interfere with the sawyers."

"This is an extremely dangerous area, so we decided to remove that man. Obviously we regret anybody being hurt, but there is no question of any intent to injure on the part of my men."

He confirmed that the firm had asked police to intervene, adding: "We asked the police to warn the man as he was jumping about and we were fearful of his safety."

TUES 14TH FEB 1995

Latest link runs into hostility

M74 link in Glasgow the Maryville Interchange at the south end of the M73 to the M8 at Kingston, section in the

PROTESTERS SURPRISE MORE UGLY ON M77 ROUTE

PROTESTERS again clashed with security guards today on part of the M77 development.

By ALLAN CALDWELL

A group of around 30 campaigners surprised a team of Wimpey workers as they arrived at a site beside Haggs Castle Golf Club on the South Side of Glasgow.

The chainsaw gang had driven up in a four-wheel vehicle to cut down two large trees.

But before they started protesters arrived and climbed the trees. The workers retreated back inside their vehicle which was then surrounded by the campaigners.

Two dozen Wimpey security guards attempted to push the protesters away but the campaigners refused to budge and police officers on the scene con-

firmed they were on a public right of way and declined to move them.

The security team then ringed their own vehicle with the protesters in turn circling them. About eight police officers stood back monitoring the scene.

It was typical of events throughout the day with the protesters now numbering more than 100 and better prepared.

Support

The campaigners ranks were swollen by a constant stream of local people arriving at the camp in support of the protesters.

There was also a team of environmentalists from England who had arrived in a convoy of cars overnight.

The 21 campaigners from Oxford and Brighton are veterans of road campaigns and had recently been to the M65 development at Preston to lend support.

The tactics clearly frustrated Wimpey bosses, who refused throughout the day to reveal to the media any of their plans.

● TWO protesters were ordered not to obstruct work on the road when they appeared at Paisley Sheriff court.

They denied charges following incidents at Pilmuir Road, near Newton Mearns, on Monday.

Lewis McCallum (45) of the Faslane Peace Camp, Helensburgh, denied causing a breach of the peace. Colin McLeod (28) of Burghead Drive, Govan, Glasgow, denied breach of the peace and assault.

FLAMES OF FURY

Protesters in secret plan to burn M77 cars

SECRET plans have been made to bring the M77 conflict to a dramatic flashpoint today.

Protesters look set for another head-on confrontation with police after laying plans to torch eight cars as a symbolic gesture against the controversial new route through Glasgow.

The hush-hush plans include a recruitment convoy around neighbouring estates to drum up mass public attendance at the 'Carhenge' burning.

Timber

Details of the protest have been kept secret from the authorities.

Protesters have called a press conference at the Pollok Park camp this afternoon, with details of the agenda kept under wraps.

The vehicles have been embedded nose down in the soil

EXCLUSIVE
By LESLEY ROBERTS

and filled with brushwood and timber.

No official permission has been sought for the bizarre ritual and it promises to spark yet another flashpoint between the determined campaigners and police.

Earlier this week more than 200 officers and 100 security men swooped on the protest camp while chainsaw gangs began felling trees.

Surprise

The protesters, living in makeshift tree houses, were taken by surprise by what they're now calling the St Valentine's Day Massacre.

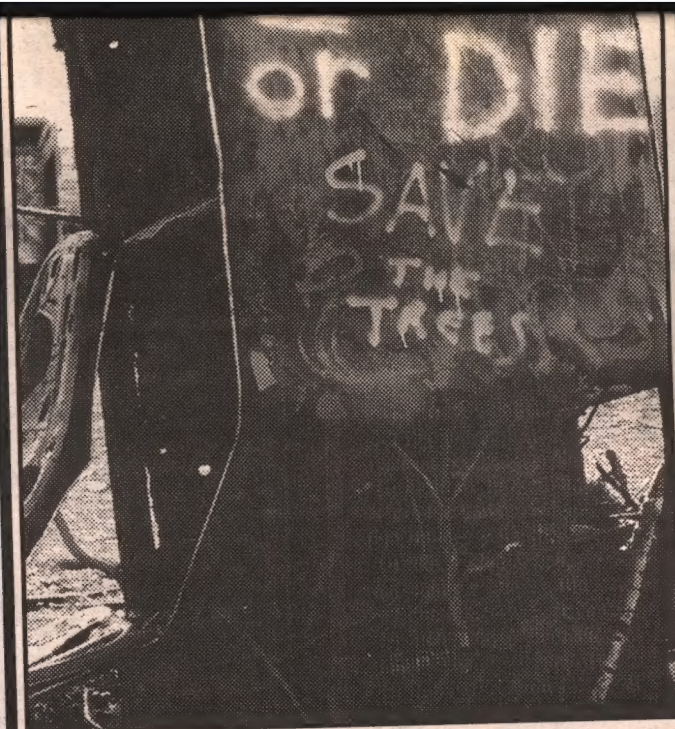
"Burning these vehicles symbolises the death of the car culture," explained an insider at the camp.

"We intend to make sure these are the only cars that ever make it on to the M77."

Four of the vehicles were



FLASHPOINT . . . eight cars have been filled



GESTURE . . . the blaze plan could lead to confrontation

FLAMES OF FURY

From Page 1

driven up from England in a convoy dubbed 'To Pollok With Love'.

And the travelling protesters who brought the cars claim to have stopped at three English cities en route to Glasgow to raise awareness of the protest.

Ceri Fielding, from Oxford Earth First!, donated his own car to the cause.

"We're tired of being called English Rent-a-Mobs," he explained. "It wouldn't matter where this protest was taking place. The fact that it's in Scotland is irrelevant.

"We're concerned about the building of motorways anywhere and we won't be swayed

from peaceful protesting - no matter what others do to entice us."

The event has been timed to coincide with the unveiling of a damning roads report by environmentalists Greenpeace.

And protesters will call on MPs George Foulkes and Phil Gallie to back up their claims that a new motorway would bring jobs to the area.

The conflict at Pollok Estate has escalated substantially over recent weeks, coming to a head when Scots Industry Minister Allan Stewart grabbed a pickaxe when confronted by demonstrators.

He resigned after details of the incident were revealed.

THE TIMES LOOKS BEHIND THE HE

FOR MONTHS they have camped in and around the woodland of the Pollok Estate, a human barrier to the progress of the new M77 motorway link to Glasgow's southside.

Described by their supporters as peace loving heroes or by

their detractors as interfering layabouts, they are the self proclaimed residents of the Pollok Free State.

In their quest to prevent work on the new road going ahead they have clashed with construction workers, MPs and the police.

BUT WHO ARE THEY?

The *Evening Times* has been to the protesters' makeshift HQ to talk to the men and women who have swapped mainstream life for a campsite existence.

Lee has found his role in life... agitator and protestor, but NO, he doesn't sign on the dole

TODAY he is in the forefront of the M77 motorway protest... literally. For he is the young man who sleeps in the trees, defying the bulldozers and waiting on the "cherry pickers".

A strong Yorkshireman who camps 50 feet up. The only way they'll get him down is from an hydraulic platform.

He calls himself Lee Tree ... a 25-year-old leader in the protesters' battle against the M77. A climbing star who has figured in many TV programmes across Britain.

Lee said, "I'm just not going to giving you my original name. My name now is Tree.

"I have had no formal education. I left school officially at 15 years of age, but I never fully

THE TREE

attended in the last two years."

So how did Lee Tree, the son of a Welsh miner, who moved to Yorkshire when his father moved there for work, become the Tree man of the protesters?

"I was politicised by the miners' strike.

"Then I became involved in the anti-vivisection movement. The Boots demonstrations. I was 12 years old and active by sitting in the doorways of Boots."

He moved up the protesting league taking action against the fascists who follow the football trail ...

"The fascists came in on the train to cause trouble at Leeds United home matches. I was strongly anti. I would block the train doors trying to prevent them getting off."

Lee had found his role in life - agitator, protester and rebel with a cause.

His rugged lean face encased in dreadlock ringlets: "I developed my tree climbing skills when I moved to the Salisbury Hill M11 protest near Bath."

He moved on to the Stanworth Valley protest, where the protesters mounted a massive campaign against a motorway extension near Blackburn.

"We had 21 tree houses in the Stanworth Valley."

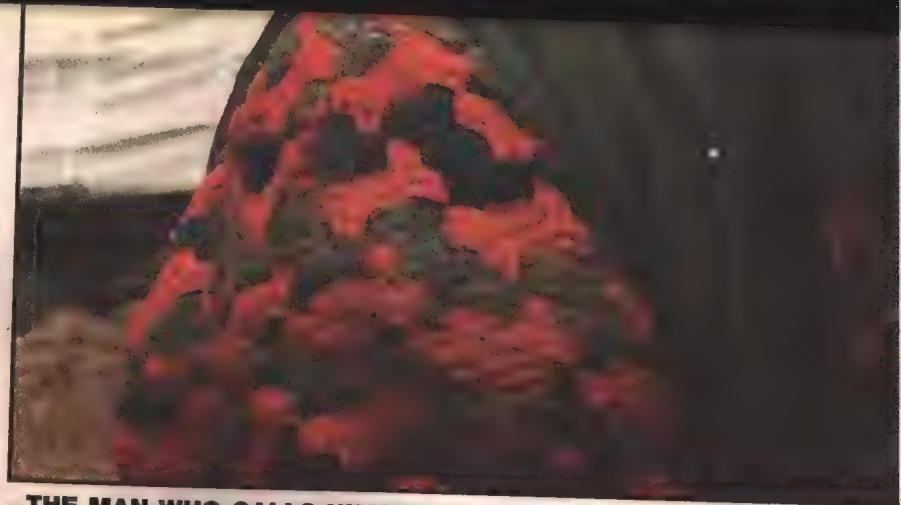
He recalls the fear he experienced when he was pulled from his tree house by the Cherry Pickers - "I hurt my leg as they dragged me out."

Lee says that he has never been arrested for any offence, and touches the log bench, to touch wood.

"I don't sign on. I do skip runs sometimes for food. And I busk playing the bass recorder."

Like many others on the M77

TREE MAN OF POLLOK



THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF LEE TREE ... and (right) the place calls home during the M77 protest Pictures: BRIAN LOGUE

Report by MIKE HILDREY

protest he is an outsider who follows the protesters' trail round Britain.

"I see my actions as opposing one long road that goes through the heart of the world. More concrete. Fewer trees.

"I am trying to help save the future for our children's children. Society is perpetrating the most hideous thefts of all time. They are stealing the future."

At 25 years old he has experience

in both on-the-scene action and behind a desk.

"I ran offices by letter and mail. We have a network of information exchanges about protests throughout Britain."

To the criticism levelled at these outsiders who follow the protest trail across Britain, he said openly: "I don't make any bones about it. We try to bring local people into the protests. To make them aware of what is happening."



BRIAN MCGAUGHEY

'I'm not an agitator'

BRIAN MCGAUGHEY (49) joined the protesters after dismissing them as "off their heads."

He is a Glasgow man from nearby Priesthill, father of four, unemployed, whose daughter asked him to go down and meet the people at the camp.

"I was shown round the camp. I realised they are not here for the fun of it. They are here to help our future.

"I have met people from all over England and some from Wales. I have been coming down here every day for six weeks. I am on Income Support. I don't consider myself an agitator.

"I am an unemployed labourer. I don't waste my money. I walk up and down to the camp. My main concern is the pollution from exhaust fumes."

WOMEN CAMPED IN THE WAY OF THE M77



LESLEY BOULTON . . . at the forefront of the Pollok protest

LESLEY Boulton is a Londoner, 49 years of age, middle class and divorced. She owns a very small cottage in Wales.

And she is at the forefront of the M77 protest on the edge of Pollok.

"My children are grown up now. My son is a diver and my daughter is at university."

So is Lesley, who is a student at Swansea University studying archaeology and classics with the help of a £2065 yearly grant.

She says: "I am off my studies. I will resume them later."

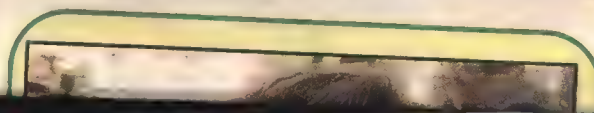
Lesley was at boarding school. Her father is a businessman who sells office equipment. She has several A and O levels at school.

Her commitment is to protest. She is active on every front . . . animal rights protests, and the M65 protest near Blackburn in Lancashire.

Release

She is committed fully - "I was involved in the anti-nuclear protests and at Greenham Common. I went and stayed at Greenham Common

**'I came
to Pollok
to offer
my support'**





"My feeling is that violence as a resolution to conflicts does not create peaceful societies.

"I have been in prison. I was banged up for three days in Govan. I was remanded in custody and then I was given a procurator fiscal's release. This means they have a year and a day to get enough evidence against me."

She states her opposition to the M77: "There is a lack of local democracy. For me it is symbolic of the general hatefulness that we labour under."

She was directly involved in bringing cars from England to Scotland, which are now upturned and bedded in the planned route.

Famous

That might be considered as breaking the law. "I came up to Pollok to show solidarity and offer my support for what I believe in.

"I think you have got to put this process into the long tradition of civil disobedience.

"There are so many famous examples of people defying the ideological norm if you like, the suffragettes. This is part of that tradition. Certain members of the community are saying, 'No. We are not willing to put up with this any more.'

"We are acting not in an unusual manner."

The criticism placed against Lesley and many others is that they are not from either Glasgow or Pollok or even Scotland.

She has the answer: "I live on a plant which I share with everybody. Patriotism - or to paraphrase it nationalism - is the last refuge of a scoundrel.

"We need to work collectively to actually achieve the aims that we have. For a more equitable society.

"My father was a businessman, a retired family firm that sold office equipment and computers and that sort of thing."

She says that the 'carhenge' is a sort of symbol to the opposition. The cars were all paid for. They were all legal when on the road. They were all ritually sacrificed if you like.

"The people donated them to the cause. They come from people like Road Alert."



ANNE GILLESPIE . . . determined

ANNE GILLESPIE has four highers and nine O levels, doesn't own a car, works for the Inland Revenue and is now a determined M77 protester.

She says: "My parents are worried that I might get arrested when I came down here. It is not an unlikely outcome.

"My impression was that that this place was run by a bunch of hippies, destroying the woodland. But after coming into the camp and talking to them I have a different view of them.

"Theoretically, I would be prepared to go to jail. I am not a hippy. I am a pretty average person."

Dedicated

She is soft spoken, unmarried, but totally committed to the cause - "On more than one occasion a handful of protesters, mainly consisting of women and children, have been surrounded by up to 200 police officers prompting claims of wasting public

'I'd be prepared to go to jail'

resources by removing officers from far more important duties such as murder or rape cases."

Anne from Paisley said: "There are no specific leaders in the camp which consists of a core of pretty dedicated individuals from various age groups and backgrounds.

"Many local and middle-aged people have braved month after month of sub-zero temperatures. They can recollect a childhood of forest rambles in what was at that time a sprawling deciduous woodland teeming with deer, barn owls and rare British wildlife."

That is how Anne Gillespie sees the battle to beat the motorway.

TOMORROW: THE CHILDREN HAVE THEIR SAY

SWOOP ON M77 CAMP



STAND-OFF . . .
Police and protesters watch as contractors fell more of the trees.
Picture:
LEWIS SEGAL

200 police move in

MORE than 200 police officers and security teams swooped on the M77 protest camp early today.

Main roads around Glasgow's Pollok Estate were sealed as the police and security teams from

By ALLAN CALDWELL

construction giants Wimpey moved in.

The massive operation took the dozen or so protesters inside the camp completely by surprise.

TURN TO PAGE 2

M77 PROTESTERS HIT OUT AT HEAVY-HANDED POLICE MOVE

'THERE'S JUST NO NEED FOR THIS'

STUNNED protesters at the M77 protest camp blasted the scale of the police operation – just days after detectives were pulled off a murder investigation because of a lack of cash for overtime pay.

There was rage on the face of Lindsay Keenan (30) as he watched the trees crash.

He said: 'It's a disgrace. It sickens me. I am absolutely gutted.

"Strathclyde Police had to pull people off murder investigations because they can't afford to pay them the overtime but they have brought in hundreds to deal with



Police swoop on M77 camp

FROM PAGE 1

Wearing hard hats – and with truncheons at the ready – the police ringed the camp as chainsaw gangs began felling trees opposite Cowglen Savings Bank.

There were several angry confrontations as protesters outside the camp tried to break through the tight security cordon.

Several burst through the first line of Wimpey staff and tried to scramble up trees as they were being prepared for sawing.

Other protesters were hauled on ropes to tree-top houses where they were preparing to spend the night if necessary to stop the trees being felled.

Defences

More police quickly moved in to strengthen the defences and push the protesters back.

One protester was dragged by feet and arms from the edge of the camp area after breaking through the cordon.

Another fell injured

only a handful of us who are trying to stop the destruction of our woodlands.

And fellow camp organiser Gehan Ibrahim (24) said there was no need for such a heavy-handed presence on a site where young children were living.

She said: "They descended early, cutting off the road and then cordoned off the area with security guards."

"Then huge numbers of

police moved in. They caught us unawares."

There were more than 200 police and security guards involved and police vehicles with further back-up support were sitting in side streets.

HARD LINE... Police officers confront one of the M77 protesters during today's operation

The main Barrhead Road was closed along with a back road from the Cowglen Savings Bank to Darnley.

Wimpey spokesman Ian McConnell said: "We tried to seal the area quickly but some protesters still managed to get through."

Contractors find it tough going

as scuffles broke out.

A spokesman for Strathclyde Police confirmed there were around 200 officers, but added: "It was Wimpey who took the decision to move in."

"Our purpose is to maintain public order and prevent breaches of law."

Wimpey's director of public relations, Ian McConnell, defended the decision to move in unannounced.

He said: "We are satisfied with our work today, which has been achieved in an efficient way."

"Obviously, however, we are concerned for the safety of our personnel and indeed the protesters."

He denied the tactics employed were heavy-handed.

Security

He added: "We brought in our own security to cordon off the area and the police are here to help when protesters break through that cordon."

"How many the police have here is up to them."

POUND ON THE SLIDE

FROM PAGE 1

Deutschmark, down more than a pfennig. It dropped a cent against the dollar to 1.554.

Sterling prices have been sliding since interest rates were increased 12 days ago.

And if tomorrow's inflation figures are poor - it could plummet further to an all-time low of 2.31 against the Deutschmark.

A senior Treasury aide

said: "There are a certain amount of City jitters around but it will calm down."

But the Opposition will point to today's figures as evidence that the alleged recovery is fading fast.

And there are renewed fears of a further hike in interest rates and mortgage repayments, while Britain's export drive could suffer.

Meanwhile, John Major

today set a collision course with Brussels over Britain's frontier controls.

Downing Street sources revealed that the Prime Minister WILL veto EU moves to force Britain to relax immigration laws.

He will insist that Britain's island status means its borders must be preserved to tackle the problems of crime, inter-national terrorism, rabies and uncontrolled immigration.

The British opt-out will put the Prime Minister at odds with EU President Jacques Santer, who will announce the Brussels plan tomorrow.

THERE is a long history of active campaigning against the M77.

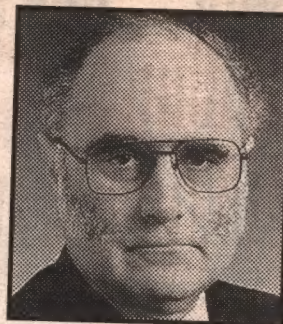
The first protester was arrested in October 1992 after campaigners set up a permanent camp on the site that was to be called Pollok Free State.

It marked the start of a gradual escalation of protest activity as controversy over the planned route became more high profile.

When contractors Wimpey officially got underway last month, the camp members braced themselves for confrontation.

Their numbers were swelled by supporters from all over the UK.

Dwellers lived in



ALLAN STEWART

make-shift house half-way up trees.

Tripods

They protected the area around their camp with swiftly erected barricades, made from tyres, old oil drums and anything else that came to hand.

Two massive tripods - made from blocks of dead wood - were also used as protection. The protesters patrolled the area covered by the planned route on the look-out for contractors at work.

But Wimpey headed off an immediate showdown by making their appearances at the site as low profile as possible.

However, the conflict came to a dramatic head last weekend when Scots Industry Minister Allan Stewart grabbed a pickaxe when confronted by demonstrators on a visit to the site.

He resigned after details of the incident emerged.

WEATHER

TONIGHT: Cloudy with rain, replaced by some very blustery showers. South west winds, strong at times. Minimum temperature 4°C (39°F).

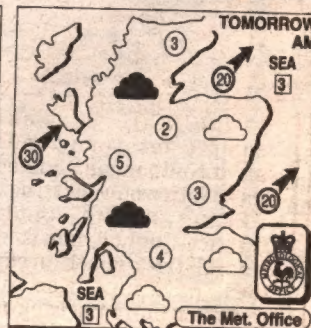
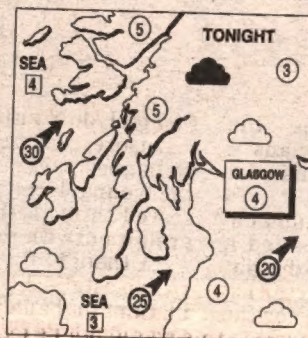
TOMORROW: Sunny spells and blustery showers continuing with some heavy bursts of rain during the day, sleet in the hills. Strong south west winds and feeling cold.

OUTLOOK FOR THURSDAY: Very blustery showers continuing with sunny spells and some strong winds. Sleet in the hills.

ENGLAND TOMORROW: Sunny spells and scattered blustery showers.

HIGH TIDE AT GREENOCK: 11.47am

SUNNY SPELLS, BLUSTERY SHOWERS



MAX TEMP

B'celona	15	Drizzle
C'hagen	05	Sunny
Corfu	16	Sunny
Faro	18	Sunny
Geneva	13	Fair
Gibraltar	14	Cloudy
Majorca	16	Cloudy
Paris	10	Rain
Rhodes	16	Fair
Rome	15	Fair
Tenerife	20	Sunny
Tunis	19	Sunny
Venice	08	Fair

BRITAIN

Glasgow	06	Rain
Edinburgh	07	Cloudy
Aberdeen	06	Cloudy
Belfast	09	Showers
Blackpool	08	Cloudy
London	11	Rain
M'chester	09	Rain

Golden BROWN **Best in Town**

FAST TAN CANOPIES

HIGH POWER

16 TUBE DOUBLE CANOPIES
* TWO WEEKS FOR JUST £23
* FOUR WEEKS FOR JUST £30

8 TUBE
4 WEEKS £20 / 6 WEEKS £25

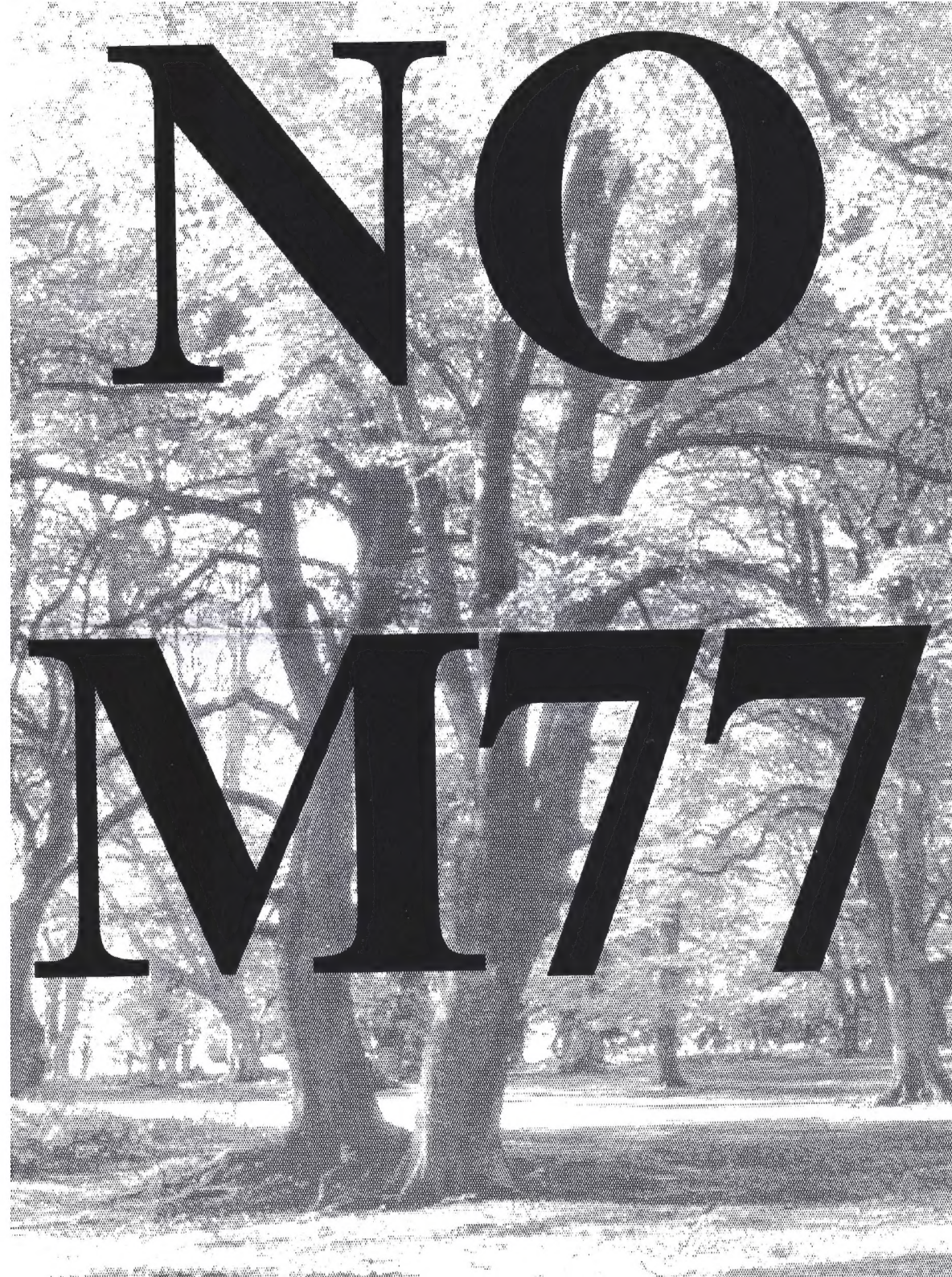
EXERCISE EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

ROWING MACHINES 12 weeks **£19**

BIKE Rowing action 12 weeks **£19**

WEIGHT SET & BENCH 12 weeks **£19**

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M77

Please display this NO M77 leaflet in your window to show that you care.

ELSPETH KING DEFENCE COMMITTEE

In taking the decision to invite Terry McCarthy to Glasgow the above committee felt the similarities were so obvious that an invitation was justified. As Gwyneth Dinwoody M.P. for Crewe and Nantwich, who was a trustee of the National Museum for Labour History at the time of the uproar in Manchester said, "The situation regarding Elspeth King would seem to almost exactly mirror the Manchester affair. History seems to be repeating itself."

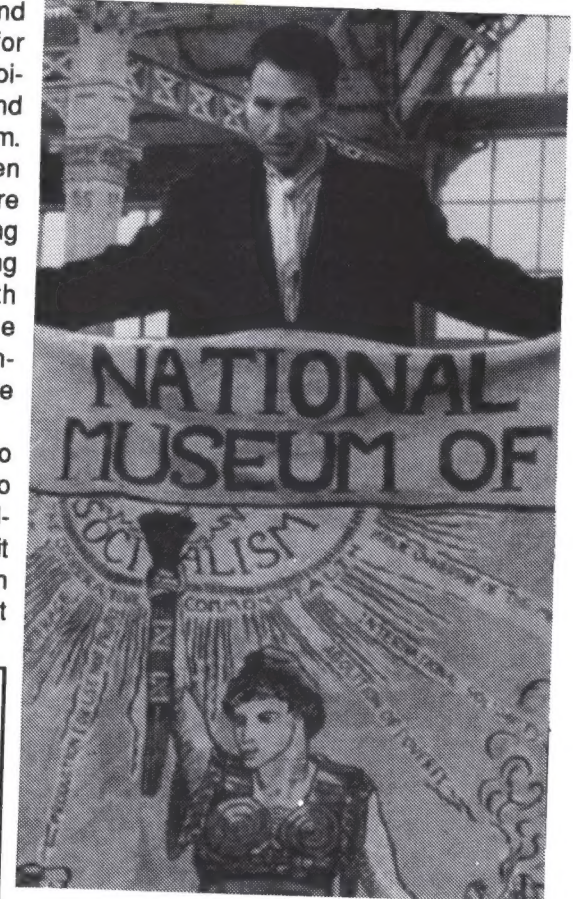
Terry McCarthy comes from a working class background despite going to Oxford University. He feels you cannot package working class history into a marketing operation, it is not a commodity to be dressed up in a public relation exercise, you cannot make it "Smiles Better" and honest social history curators have no desire to do so.

Elspeth King was a coal miners daughter and graduated with honours from St. Andrews University. In the words of Neil Wallace, one of the many high paid officers in charge of Culture City, "Elspeth King had the disinclination to negotiate in a constructive manner and an imperfect understanding of how the political systems work and how they could be used as allies". David Mellor the new Arts Minister who was appointed by Thatcher in the recent reshuffle could not have said it better.

Despite having unlimited resources and cash available for their jewel in the crown for Culture year, the Glasgow's Glasgow exhibition produced the biggest flop of the year and any other year with a loss of at least £3.5m. The flock of P.R. agents who have been attracted to Glasgow for the year of culture would, one would have thought, be rethinking their philosophy. Not a bit: they start looking for a scape-goat and low and behold Elspeth King and Michael Donnelly fit the bill. Yet the Peoples Palace is heading for record attendance figures this year, from staff who have no degrees in public or political relations.

The supporters of Elspeth King have no desire to allow the people's social history to be marketed; they do not see it as a commodity to be milked for all it is worth. They see it as a truth that future generations will learn from and will make them proud of their past and struggle to improve the future.

Come along on Thursday 23rd August at 7.30pm to the Calton Parish Church, Bain Street (Opposite the Barrows) to hear Terry McCarthy and other speakers.



Terry McCarthy